MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Held in Washington, D. C., May 9, 1947.

The seventh meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, during the fiscal year 1947, was held in its office in the Interior Department Building on Friday, May 9, 1947. The following members were present:

Mr. Clarke, Chairman,
Mr. Finley, Vice Chairman,
Mr. Aldrich,
Mr. Reinhard,
Mr. Sterne,
Mr. Murphy,
Mr. Lawrie,

also H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary and Administrative Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The Minutes of the Meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held March 28, 1947, were approved, with the omission of copy of transcript pertaining to the Veterans' Hospital, since the action of the Commission was sufficiently embodied in the text of the Minutes.

2. REAPPOINTMENT OF MR. FINLEY: The Secretary reported that the four-year term of service of Mr. Finley expires May 10, 1947.

The members expressed to Mr. Finley their appreciation of his services as a member of the Commission, and recommended his reappointment to the President (Exhibit A). (The President reappointed Mr. Finley immediately and he took the oath of office for his second term on May 16, 1947.)

3. COMMITTEE ON FURNISHINGS FOR THE WHITE HOUSE: The Commission discussed various phases of the work of the Committee. The Commission decided that beginning July 1, 1947, the chairmanship of the Committee should rotate, so as to give the several members of the Committee an opportunity to preside at meetings held during the fiscal year.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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The seventh meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1947, was held in its office in the Interior Department Building on Friday, May 9, 1947. The following members were present:

Mr. Clarke, Chairman,
Mr. Finley, Vice Chairman,
Mr. Adams,
Mr. Reinhard,
Mr. Stearns,
Mr. Murphy,
Mr. Lawrie,

also E. P. Casemeyer, Secretary and Administrative Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The minutes of the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held March 28, 1947, were approved, with the omission of copy of transcript pertaining to the Veterans' Hospital, since the action of the Commission was sufficiently embodied in the text of the Minutes.

2. REAPPOINTMENT OF MR. FINLEY: The Secretary reported that the four-year term of service of Mr. Finley expires May 10, 1947.

The members expressed to Mr. Finley their appreciation of his services as a member of the Commission, and recommended his reappointment to the President (Exhibit A). (The President reappointed Mr. Finley immediately and he took the oath of office for his second term on May 10, 1947)

3. COMMITTEES ON EXHIBITIONS FOR THE WHITE HOUSE: The Commission discussed various phases of the work of the Committee. The Commission decided that beginning July 1, 1947, the chairmanship of the Committee should rotate, so as to give the several members of the Committee an opportunity to preside at meetings held during the fiscal year.

4. MERCHANT MARINE MEDAL: Under date of April 3, 1947, the following letter was received from Honorable Nellie Tayloe Ross, Director of the Mint:

Dear Mr. Clarke:

I am pleased to submit for judgment of The Commission of Fine Arts, as to their artistic merit, the accompanying plaster models of the Merchant Marine Victory Medal, authorized by Act of Congress, approved August 8, 1946 (P. L.698)

The medal was designed in the Mint, at the request of the United States Maritime Commission, by Mr. John R. Sinnock, Sculptor and Engraver. The obverse model was prepared by Mr. Gilroy Roberts, Assistant Sculptor and Engraver, and the reverse by Engelhardus von Hebel, Sculptor at the Mint.

Very truly yours,
Nellie Tayloe Ross,
Director of the Mint.

The Chairman reported that the models were inspected by several members of the Commission, and on the recommendation of Mr. Lawrie had been disapproved. Mrs. Ross was advised accordingly (Exhibit B). The Commission ratified the action of the Chairman in this matter.

The Secretary reported that Mr. Sinnock had received a stroke and was dangerously ill. (He died May 14, 1947)

5. FORT DRIVE: The Chairman brought to the attention of the Commission a letter from District Commissioner John Russell Young, regarding the Fort Drive, in reply to one sent by the Chairman (Exhibit C).

6. PENDING LEGISLATION: The Commission took note of the following pending legislation, in which the Commission of Fine Arts is concerned:

(a) H.J.Res.170, Memorial Fountain to Andrew W. Mellon, introduced by Congressman Fulton, and S. J. Res 100 (identical) introduced by Senator Martin, both from Pennsylvania.

The Secretary reported that Congressman Fulton had requested of him a draft of legislation, which he furnished with a suggestion by Mr. Finley that the memorial take the form of a fountain (Exhibits D & D-1).

(b) S.J.Res.110, Providing for the relocation of the McMillan Fountain in Potomac Park, introduced by Senator Vandenberg (Exhibit E), in accordance with a letter from the Chairman (Exhibit E-1).See also E-2.

4. MEMORIAL MEDALS AWARD: Under date of April 3, 1947, the following letter was received from Honorable Nellie Taylor Ross, Director of the Mint:

Dear Mr. Clarke:

I am pleased to submit for judgment of The Commission of Fine Arts, as to their artistic merit, the accompanying plaster models of the Merchant Marine Victory Medal, authorized by Act of Congress, approved August 9, 1946 (P. L. 699).

The medal was designed in the Mint, at the request of the United States Maritime Commission, by Mr. John R. Sinnock, Sculptor and Engraver. The obverse model was prepared by Mr. Gilroy Roberts, Assistant Sculptor and Engraver, and the reverse by Engelhardus von Hebel, Sculptor at the Mint.

Very truly yours,

Nellie Taylor Ross,

Director of the Mint.

The Chairman reported that the models were inspected by several members of the Commission, and on the recommendation of Mr. Lewis had been disapproved. Mrs. Ross was advised accordingly (Exhibit B). The Commission ratified the action of the Chairman in this matter.

The Secretary reported that Mr. Gilcoyne had received a stroke and was dangerously ill. (He died May 14, 1947).

5. FORT DRIVE: The Chairman brought to the attention of the Commission a letter from District Commissioner John Russell Young, regarding the Fort Drive, in reply to one sent by the Chairman (Exhibit C).

6. PENDING LEGISLATION: The Commission took note of the following pending legislation, in which the Commission of Fine Arts is concerned:

(a) H.R. 1170, Memorial Fountain to Andrew T. Hallon, introduced by Congressman Hilton, and H. R. 1100 (identical) introduced by Senator Martin, both from Pennsylvania.

The Secretary reported that Congressman Hilton had requested of him a draft of legislation, which he furnished with a suggestion by Mr. Finley that the memorial take the form of a fountain (Exhibits D & D-1).

(b) S.J.Res.114, Providing for the relocation of the Mahlon Pounsin in Potomac Park, introduced by Senator Vandenberg (Exhibit E), in accordance with a letter from the Chairman (Exhibit E-1).See also E-2.

(c) H.R.3072, Providing for a new House Office Building. It is to be located on the west side of South Capitol Street, across the street from the existing new House of Representatives Office Bldg. (Exhibit F).

(d) S.723, for a new Senate Office Building. The Commission feel strongly that the building should not be placed on the west side of the existing Senate Office Building, where it would obstruct the view between the Union Station and the Capitol; but rather on the square east of the Senate Office Building (Exhibit F-1).

7. MEMORIAL FLAGPOLE, AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION: Under date of April 22, 1947, a set of photographs of a model by Ulysses Ricci, Sculptor, for the base of the proposed Memorial Flagpole, was received from Eggers & Higgins, Architects, New York City, to be erected on the grounds of the American Pharmaceutical Association Headquarters Building, at 22d Street and Constitution Avenue, Northwest.

Mr. Lawrie reported that he had inspected the photographs and felt that the connection between the flagpole and the base is unsatisfactory. Before deciding finally in the matter, Mr. Lawrie said he wished to examine a set of the working drawings. The Secretary was requested to procure a set from the architects. They were received and inspected by Mr. Clarke and by Mr. Reinhard; also by Mr. Lawrie, and upon his recommendation the model was approved (Exhibit G).

8. CONFERENCE CONCERNING ANTENNAE OR RADIO MASTS FOR RADIO TELEPHONES: Under date of April 9, 1947, a letter (Exhibit H), which the Chairman read, was received from the Honorable John Russell Young, President of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, requesting advice as to a suggested pending project to erect numerous antennae or radio masts, particularly in the "down town" area of the National Capital.

Messrs. H. S. Cowperthwait, and M. O. Sharpe, Engineers of the Federal Communications Commission, were present to discuss the subject with the Commission of Fine Arts.

The Secretary reported that at the conference referred to in the letter

The Secretary reported that at the conference referred to in the letter of April 3, 1947, a letter (Exhibit M), which the Chairman read, was received from the Honorable John Russell Young, President of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, requesting advice as to a suggested parking project to erect numerous antennae or radio masts, particularly in the "down town" area of the National Capital.

Messrs. H. S. Cowperthwait, and M. C. Sharpe, Engineers of the Federal Communications Commission, were present to discuss the subject with the Commission at this time.

(a) H.R.5078, Providing for a new House Office Building. It is to be located on the west side of South Capitol Street, across the street from the existing new House of Representatives Office Bldg. (Exhibit Y).

(b) S.725, for a new Senate Office Building. The Commission feel strongly that the building should not be placed on the west side of the existing Senate Office Building, where it would obstruct the view between the Union Station and the Capitol; but rather on the square east of the Senate Office Building (Exhibit K-1).

7. MEMORIAL FLAGPOLE, MONTICELLO INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Under date of April 22, 1947, a set of photographs of a model by Ulysses Ricci, Sculptor, for the base of the proposed Memorial Flagpole, was received from Eggers & Higgins, Architects, New York City, to be erected on the grounds of the American Pharmaceutical Association Headquarters Building, at 2nd Street and Constitution Avenue, Northwest.

Mr. Lewis reported that he had inspected the photographs and felt that the connection between the flagpole and the base is unsatisfactory. Before deciding finally in the matter, Mr. Lewis said he wished to examine a set of the working drawings. The Secretary was requested to procure a set from the architects. They were received and inspected by Mr. Clarke and by Mr. Reinhard; also by Mr. Lewis, and upon his recommendation the model was approved (Exhibit O).

8. CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS INVOLVING CO RADIO TOWERS FOR RADIO TRANSMISSION: Under date of April 9, 1947, a letter (Exhibit M), which the Chairman read, was received

the District Commissioners had stated one antennae or "pole", about 50 feet high, on the top of a business establishment would be necessary for every 50 radio-telephones in automobiles.

Television was discussed briefly. Mr. Sharpe stated that there are only four Television Stations in the District of Columbia, and until color television is established there is no danger of having many more; at that time it appears Zoning Regulations will have to govern the erection of towers and radio masts. At the present time, he said, the Federal Communications Commission issues permits on a "public use" basis, as for fire and police stations, including radio-telephone permits. But as fire and police stations are scattered throughout the city, the poles or masts are so few and so scattered as to do no damage aesthetically. The Capital Transit Company has one such "pole" now to communicate with their buses, and there is one on top of the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company Building, each about 50 feet high.

Major General Grant then suggested that as to the radio telephones, permits should be based upon necessity for public use. This principle was agreed to by the Commission of Fine Arts. The Commission concurred in the recommendation made by General Grant that in the area south of H Street and north of the Mall restriction against radio poles should be as rigid as possible, with a view toward preventing the erection of towers in that area, if possible. The Commission reaffirmed the principle which has always been adhered to, namely, that nothing should be permitted to interfere with views over the limits of the building heights toward the Dome of the National Capitol or the Washington Monument.

A copy of the letter from Commissioner Young (Exhibit H), and a copy of the Report sent to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia (Exhibit H-1) are attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.

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A copy of the letter from Commissioner Young (Exhibit H), and a copy of the report sent to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia (Exhibit H-1) are attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.

9. COMPLETION OF BUILDING OCCUPIED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT: Honorable J. E. Stanton, Deputy Commissioner of Design and Construction, accompanied by Mr. C. David Persina, Chief, Division of Design, and Mr. Allan S. Thorn, Assistant Supervising Architect, Public Buildings Administration, submitted drawings for the completion of a Government Office Building now occupied by the Department of State at 21st Street and Virginia Ave., N.W., westward to 23d St.

Mr. Thorn explained the drawings, stating: "We are authorized to develop working drawings for future construction and the completion of this building, although no construction funds are presently available. We are making provision for parking autos, in the immediate vicinity of the building."

Chairman Clarke felt it would "destroy the whole dignity of the building" to allow parking in the reentrant court facing "C" Street since this south facade can be seen from Constitution Avenue, looking from the Pharmaceutical Building and from the National Academy of Sciences Building.

It was agreed that car parking would be omitted here, where parking cars is shown elsewhere, it was agreed to provide for rows of trees between the cars.

Mr. Stanton said there are 6,000 persons in the existing First Unit and the addition provides for 8,352. It will extend west along "C" St. to 23d St. In design the addition as planned is similar in character to the existing First Unit, omitting, however, any portico and column treatment as at the main or East entrance to the existing unit.

The question of a "block building", similar to the General Accounting Office, was discussed; interior courts are omitted. General Grant stated that he felt that buildings so designed crowd too many people in a limited area. It was thought uneconomical to provide interior courts beginning at the second or third floors and extending to the roof.

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Thereupon the design for the C Street elevation was given particular attention.

(a) The indicated provision for sculpture for the main entrance to Unit I was discussed.

(b) Chairman Clarke asked if a model had been made, and Mr. Stanton replied, "No; we propose to make one but haven't started on it yet." The Commission made a request to see the model when completed.

(c) As to the window spandrels, Mr. Stanton said, "They are reddish brown of granite (cedar brown) and will be carried around the building.

(d). Chairman Clarke asked Mr. Finley for comment, and he said: "I think it is an improvement on the original building. After all, it is on C Street and serves as an office building; they have to have a certain amount of light, and they have to conform to the general expression of fenestration in what they have; and they have left off the column treatment, which is nothing to cheer about.

(e) It is proposed to use limestone of the same color and texture as that of the first unit of the building for the addition.

(f) The Commission felt that the building should not be considered a permanent State Department Building, since it is hoped that Department is some day to be located in a dignified building on the west side of LafayettePark.

Upon the recommendation of the architect members of the Commission, the designs submitted were approved, subject to the resubmission of a restudy of the plot plans, more detailed studies at a larger scale of the elevations, and the submission of a model of the entire building (Exhibit I).

10. LIFE MASKS: In accordance with arrangements made (Exhibit J), Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institition, conferred with the Commission on the subject of life masks, to be made of leading Americans. He

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Upon the recommendation of the architect members of the Commission, the designs submitted were approved, subject to the resubmission of a revised of the plot plans, more detailed studies at a larger scale of the elevations, and the submission of a model of the entire building (Exhibit I).

IC. MIKE MANN: In accordance with arrangements made (Exhibit 7), Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, conferred with the Commission on the subject of life masks, to be made of leading Americans. He

was in conference with Mr. Lawrie and Mr. Sterne on the subject.

Mr. Lawrie reported:

> "I think Dr. Wetmore favors the idea of a library of masks, and, of course, there is the question of funds and how to go about it. He is going to put the idea on paper and send us a copy, and we will make suggestions. Mr. Sterne suggested that the Medical Associations, the Bar Associations, the Institute of Architects, the Academy of Arts and Letters, and so on, would be interested perhaps in making their own casts of their great men, and send them on to the library of the Smithsonian."

The Commission decided to await the Memorandum from Dr. Wetmore before taking further action in the matter.

11. BELLEVIEW APARTMENTS, Fairfax County, Virginia. Mr. Irving C. Root, Superintendent of National Capital Parks, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, submitted,in behalf of the Federal Housing Administration, a set of drawings, colonial in design, for the proposed Belleview Apartments, to be built in proximity to the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, about four miles south of Alexandria, Virginia. They provide for 1500 apartments and are to be built on a 110 acre tract, at an estimated cost of $14,000,000;Mills & Petticord, Architects, of Washington, D.C.

Messrs. Aldrich, Reinhard, and Murphy, the architect members of the Commission, gave the designs particular attention.

Mr. Mills explained the drawings. He pointed out that these colonial buildings will be two stories high, faced with brick amd with limestone trim.

A diagramatical drawing was submitted showing the arrangement of the apartments and the business district. It will be similar to the Fairlington development near Alexandria, Virginia, built during the War. There will be some duplex buildings, the rest simplex; with two or three bedrooms;pitch roof, of slate. There will be one heating plant.

The Commission approved the designs, with the suggestion that wood window frames and sash be used, instead of steel, to be more in keeping with colonial architecture (Exhibit K)

was in conference with Mr. Lawrie and Mr. Sterne on the subject.

Mr. Lawrie reported:

"I think Mr. Wetmore favors the idea of a library of books, and, of course, there is the question of funds and how to go about it. He is going to put the idea on paper and send us a copy, and we will make suggestions. Mr. Sterne suggested that the Medical Associations, the Bar Associations, the Institute of Architects, the Academy of Arts and Letters, and so on, would be interested perhaps in making their own quota of their great men, and send them on to the Library of the Smithsonian."

The Commission decided to await the Memorandum from Mr. Wetmore before taking further action in the matter.

11. BELLEVIEW APARTMENTS, Fairfax County, Virginia. Mr. Irving C. Root, Superintendent of National Capital Parks, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, submitted, in behalf of the Federal Housing Administration, a set of drawings, colonial in design, for the proposed Belleview Apartments, to be built in proximity to the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, about four miles south of Alexandria, Virginia. They provide for 1800 apartments and are to be built on a 110 acre tract, at an estimated cost of $14,000,000;Mills & Petticord, Architects, of Washington, D.C.

Messrs. Ashton, Reinhard, and Murphy, the architect members of the Commission, gave the designs particular attention.

Mr. Mills explained the drawings. He pointed out that these colonial buildings will be two stories high, faced with brick and with limestone trim.

A diagrammatical drawing was submitted showing the arrangement of the apartments and the swampy district. It will be similar to the Fairlington development near Alexandria, Virginia, built during the War. There will be some duplex buildings, the rest simplex; with two or three bedrooms; pitch roof, of slate. There will be one heating plant.

The Commission approved the designs, with the suggestion that wood window frames and sash be used, instead of steel, to be more in keeping with colonial architecture (Exhibit K)

12. ROSE GARDEN, WEST POTOMAC PARK: Mr. Harry T. Thompson, Assistant Superintendent, National Capital Parks, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, submitted a preliminary design for the proposed Rose Garden in West Potomac Park, west of the Tidal Basin, and south of the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Basin. Mr. Thompson explained the drawing, stating:

"Here is the site in relation to the Tidal Basin and the Lincoln Memorial (indicating). This is just the first thought on the Rose Garden scheme. The idea was to put the McMillan Fountain in as the main feature, and, at the other end of the axis, we would put the Cuban Urn, which is near this locality now (indicating), and has to be moved on account of the bridge coming in there.

"The idea was to have the formal garden in the center and have shrub roses and old-fashioned roses on each side in informal planting. We rather hoped that we could follow that up farther out with a fine display of azaleas, so that the Rose Garden would have a longer period of interest during the summer.

"That is about all I have to say, Mr. Chairman. This will no doubt be changed considerably in the final stages."

Chairman Clarke commented on the design by saying,---

I might say to the Commission that I went over this when I was here in Washington the last time with Mr. Thompson. We raised the question of the McMillan Fountain. It is now in storage, you remember, because it was in the way of the expansion of the filter plant over on the north side of the city. We are trying to interest Senator Vandenberg in this because Senator McMillan came from Michigan. I wrote a letter to the Senator and asked support of a bill, the draft of a bill, which we prepared here and sent over to him to see if we could get a small appropriation to rebuild this fountain at this site. I think Mr. Root would like to have today the approval of the site of the McMillan Fountain, and an approval, in principle, that the Rose Garden should go on this site. Mr. Thompson and Mr. Root have indicated that they would like to study the pattern of the garden a little further. Size is a question, and they want to decide how many roses they want, and all that sort of thing. I feel that it is an improvement over the original site that we had for it, over here, in the trees (indicating); now it is moved on the same general axis over here (indicating) (It is now in an area where there are some WAVE barracks), and I think it is a satisfactory site. I think we ought to go on record approving the site for the McMillan Fountain, so that if word comes from Congress that we can get the money to rebuild it, they can go ahead. There is quite a problem, and they will probably have to take borings there to see about foundations. I will be glad to entertain a motion to approve it.

Mr. Aldrich said, "I so move," and the motion was severally seconded.

A report was sent to the National Park Service accordingly(Exhibit L). See also copy of letter sent to Senator Vandenberg (Exhibit E-1), and copy of S.J.Res.110, which he introduced (Exhibit E)

ROSE GARDEN, WEST POTOMAC PARK: Mr. Harry T. Thompson, Assistant Superintendent, National Capital Parks, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, submitted a preliminary design for the proposed Rose Garden in West Potomac Park, west of the Tidal Basin, and south of the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Basin. Mr. Thompson explained the drawing, stating:

"Here is the site in relation to the Tidal Basin and the Lincoln Memorial (indicating). This is just the first thought on the Rose Garden scheme. The idea was to put the McMillan Fountain in as the main feature, and, at the other end of the axis, we would put the Gideon Urn, which is near this locality now (indicating), and has to be moved on account of the bridge coming in there.

"The idea was to have the formal garden in the center and have sunken roses and old-fashioned roses on each side in informal planting. We rather hoped that we could follow that up further out with a fine display of valeas, so that the Rose Garden would have a longer period of interest during the summer.

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Mr. Aldrich said, "I so move," and the motion was severally seconded.

A report was sent to the National Park Service accordingly (Exhibit I). See also copy of letter sent to Senator Vandenberg (Exhibit K-1), and copy of S.1.Res.110, which be introduced (Exhibit K)

13. AIRPLANE BEACONS FOR THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT: Major General U.S. Grant III, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, submitted in behalf of the Washington National Monument Society and of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, photographs of cylindrical models that have been recommended by the Civil Aeronautics Authority for the top of the Washington Monument, to take the place of the existing red lights to warn fliers. It was stated that these will be more powerful warning signals and that they are needed during foggy weather as an aid to pilots who are unfamiliar with the Washington area.

In submitting the photographs, General Grant said:

> "The Park Service was asked by the C. A. A. to put some lights on top of the Washington Monument to make it less dangerous to aviators. I think it was something like 20 aviators who came in from abroad the other day and were probably not aware of the Monument, and so forth, and it stands somewhat isolated, right on the road, normally to the Airport. There is perhaps a question of danger, and I referred it to the National Washington Monument Society for its comments. I thought we ought to get your advice, and that was perfectly agreeable to the Park Service.

Mr. Lawrie asked, "Couldn't the top of the Monument be flood-lighted?"

General Grant replied: "The floodlights on it now are at the recommendation of the Fine Arts Commission, and are very mild, because the Capitol Dome is brilliantly illuminated and it was the Fine Arts Commission's belief that the Washington Monument should not be glaringly illuminated. I think I am right in saying that the lights are not strong enough to do the job."

Mr. Lawrie remarked, "If they were strong enough, wouldn't that be less objectionable than those lanterns?

General Grant stated that the Civil Aeronautics Authority wants a strong flashing light. The lanterns on top of the monument now have red lights and look like toys. The new lights are intended to shoot upwards. The models are made of tin and glass, cylindrical in shape.

The Secretary stated he had arranged to have the models put on top of the Washington Monument for inspection by the Commission of Fine Arts. The Commission went to the top of the Monument and inspected them early in the afternoon.

16. AIRPLANE FLYING FOR THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT: Major General Wm. Grant III, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, summoned in behalf of the Washington National Monument Society and of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, photographs of aviation models that have been recommended by the Civil Aeronautics Authority for the top of the Washington Monument, to take the place of the existing red lights to warn fliers. It was stated that these will be more powerful warning signals and that they are needed during foggy weather as an aid to pilots who are unfamiliar with the Washington area.

In examining the photographs, General Grant said:

> "The Park Service was asked by the C. A. A. to put some lights on top of the Washington Monument to make it less dangerous to aviators. I think it was something like 20 aviators who came in from abroad the other day and were previously not aware of the Monument, and so forth, and it stands somewhat isolated, right on the road, normally to the Airport. There is perhaps a question of danger, and I referred it to the National Washington Monument Society for its comments. I thought we ought to get your advice, and that was perfectly agreeable to the Park Service."

Mr. Lawrie asked, "Couldn't the top of the Monument be flood-lighted?"

General Grant replied: "The floodlights on it now are at the recommendation of the Fine Arts Commission, and are very mild, because the Capitol Dome is brilliantly illuminated and it was the Fine Arts Commission's belief that the Washington Monument should not be glaringly illuminated. I think I am right in saying that the lights are not strong enough to do the job."

Mr. Lawrie remarked, "If they were strong enough, wouldn't that be less objectionable than these lanterns?

General Grant stated that the Civil Aeronautics Authority wants a strong flashing light. The lanterns on top of the Monument now have red lights and look like toys. The new lights are intended to shoot upwards. The models are made of tin and glass, cylindrical in shape.

The Secretary stated he had arranged to have the models put on top of the Washington Monument for inspection by the Commission of Fine Arts. The Commission went to the top of the Monument and inspected them early in the afternoon.

The models had been fastened adjacent to the south window of the Monument (at 550' height); the cylinders were about two feet high.

The Commission felt that the location proposed for them is undesirable, since they interfered with the view of visitors looking out of the windows over the City of Washington. There would be two cylinders on each of the four sides of the Monument, which would mean eight red flashes shooting upward.

Mr. Reinhard felt the models might be attached to an iron bar fastened to a window, so that these light fixtures could be swung in and out of the Monument as needed. The Commission concurred in this suggestion, and decided that the problem be given further study accordingly. A report was sent to General Grant (Exhibit M).

14. WORLD WAR II, FIRST DIVISION MEMORIAL: Mr. Cass Gilbert, Jr., Architect, of New York City, and Lieut. Col. R. G. Ciccolella, of the First Division, World War II, conferred with the Commission regarding a Memorial to be designed so as to be incorporated into the World War I, First Division Memorial, south of the old State War and Navy Building.

The Commission discussed the subject. Mr. Gilbert related achievements of the First Division in World War II, saying "They fought through from Africa, Sicily, and into Normandy, and ended up in Czechoslovakia." Mr. Gilbert indicated that an enclosure of stone, to take the place of an existing hedge which surrounds the Memorial has been suggested; but that he has had little time to study the problem. A design for the Memorial is to be submitted at a future meeting of the Commission. A report was sent to Mr. Ciccolella (Exhibit N). In the meantime legislation for the Memorial has been introduced in Congress (Exhibit N-1).

15. GATE POSTS, WEST EXECUTIVE AVENUE: The Secretary reported that Congress has enacted legislation for removal of the Gate Posts, at West Executive Avenue, adjacent to Pennsylvania Avenue. No action was taken as to disposition of them. They were erected about 1871 and are very ordinary in appearance.

The models had been fastened adjacent to the north window at the monument (at 350' height); the cylinders were about two feet high.

The Commission felt that the location proposed for them is undesirable, since they interfered with the view of distance looking out of the windows over the City of Washington. There would be two cylinders on each of the four sides of the monument, which would mean eight red flashes shooting upward.

Mr. Hubbard felt the models might be attached to an iron bar fastened to a window, so that these light fixtures could be swung in and out of the monument as needed. The Commission concurred in this suggestion, and decided that the problem be given further study accordingly. A report was sent to General Grant (Exhibit M).

14. Memo. Jan 21, 1930 DIAMOND MEMORIAL: Mr. Cass Gilbert, Jr., member, of New York City, and Lieut. Col. H. D. Biscoe, of the First Division, World War II, conferred with the Commission regarding a memorial to be designed so as to be incorporated into the World War I, First Division memorial, south of the old Executive Mansion grounds.

The Commission discussed the project. Mr. Gilbert related achievements of the First Division in World War II, saying they fought through from Africa, Sicily, and into Germany, and ended up in Czechoslovakia." Mr. Gilbert indicated that an enclosure of stone, to take the place of an existing hedge which surrounds the Memorial has been suggested; but that no one had little time to study the problem. A design for the memorial is to be submitted at a future meeting of the Commission. A report was sent to Mr. Biscoe (Exhibit N). In the meantime legislation for the Memorial has been introduced in Congress (Exhibit N-1).

15. OLIN PARK, 13th STREET AND ---: The Secretary reported that Congress has enacted legislation for removal of the park lodge, at 13th Street and ---, adjacent to Pennsylvania Avenue. No action was taken as to disposition of them. They were erected about 1871 and are very ordinary in appearance.

16. MILITARY ROAD UNDERPASS: Capt. H. C. Whitehurst, Director of Highways, District Building, submitted a design by Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson, Architects, of Philadelphia, for a proposed Military Road Underpass, at Sixteenth Street. The Commission inspected the design and approved it (Exhibit O).

17. BRIDGE OVER ROCK CREEK, MILITARY ROAD: Capt. H. C. Whitehurst, Director of Highways, submitted a design by Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson, Architects, of Philadelphia, for a bridge to cross Rock Creek, on Military Road. The Commission inspected the design and approved it (Exhibit O).

18. DUPONT CIRCLE UNDERPASS: Capt. H. C. Whitehurst, Director of Highways, District Building, submitted detailed architectural plans for the Dupont Circle Underpass. The architect members of the Commission gave the drawings particular attention.

Capt. Whitehurst stated that the material to be used will be similar to that used at the Thomas Circle and the Scott Circle Underpasses, and this was satisfactory to the Commission. The designs were approved with the understanding that a slight modification would be made in the design of the railing (Exhibit O).

19. TWIN BRIDGES AT FOURTEENTH STREET, to replace the old Highway Bridge: Capt. H. C. Whitehurst, Director of Highways, submitted detailed architectural plans for the Twin Bridges to be built at Fourteenth Street, to replace the old Highway Bridge. The architect members of the Commission gave the drawings particular attention.

The designs were approved, with the understanding that further study would be given to the lighting standards, which were not approved (Exhibit O).

20. FREER GALLERY OF ART: The Commission inspected several works of art at the Freer Gallery of Art, submitted by Mr. A. G. Wenley, Director. They were approved by the Commission (Exhibit P).

The Commission adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

The Commission adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

May 10, 1947.

Dear Mr. President:

The four-year term of service of the Honorable David E. Finley as a member of The Commission of Fine Arts having expired, the Commission respectfully recommend to you his reappointment. The members have enjoyed his fellowship and appreciated his services. Mr. Finley is the Vice Chairman of the Commission.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

The President,

The White House,

Washington, D.C.

(EXhibit-A)

May 10, 1947.

Dear Mr. President:

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For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

The President,

The White House,

Washington, D.C.

(Exhibit-A)

April 21, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Ross:

This Will acknowledge your letter of April 3, 1947, submitting plastic models of the obverse and of the reverse of a proposed Merchant Marine Victory Medal. The models were referred to the Hon. Lee Lawrie, sculptor member of this Commission, through means of photographs.

Mr. Lawrie recommends disapproval of the obverse, adding that the female figure is "insipid" and hence not suitable for a medal to honor members of the Merchant Marine who served in World War II.

Mr. Lawrie Added that the reverse is lacking in artistry, though workmanlike.

Since Commissioner Finley, Mr. Murphy and I concur in Mr. Lawrie's comments, I deem it appropriate to return the models to you without the approval of the Commission and with the expressed hope that more appropriate designs may be prepared for this important model for the Merchant Marine. I recall two earlier medals struck for this branch of the Service which were of outstanding design and which were prepared by Mr. Paul Manship.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Honorable Nellie Tayloe Ross,
Director of the Mint,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

(EXhibit-B)

April 21, 1947.

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For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Honorable Nellie Taylor Ross,
Director of the Mint,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

(Exhibit-S)

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

.M. Thornett,
Secretary.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

WASHINGTON 4, D. C.

Board of
Commissioners
John R. Young
President

Guy Mason
Gordon R. Young
Brig. Gen.A.U.S.

April 4, 1947.

Honorable Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman
The Commission of Fine Arts
Interior Department Building
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Clarke:

I have your letter of March 11, regarding Fort Drive, and greatly appreciate your interest in our transportation problems.

The District Commissioners have taken no formal action in the matter of restricting or abandoning the Fort Drive project. The Director of Highways recently submitted, for the Commissioners' approval, a long-term project for comprehensive highway developments to meet the new conditions in the District. As an element of this he recommended that certain major projects for which there was no immediate need, including Fort Drive, be made the subject of a cooperative study by a group of interested agencies. The District Commissioners have approved this recommendation and are organizing a Committee to make the study. You may be sure that Fort Drive will be included in the study, and that careful consideration will be given the views of your Commission.

In my personal opinion, if the Fort Drive project has become increasingly questionable in the minds of many practical men and responsible interest in Washington, its advocates have only themselves to thank. During the past seven years there has been a revolutionary change in the size and distribution of population in Washington and the Metropolitan Area. The permanent addition to the Area's population is nearly 500,000 persons. Immense housing developments have been made east of the Anacostia, in Prince Georges and Montgomery Counties, and in Arlington County. Numbers of these new citizens contribute to the morning and evening peak traffic in central Washington.

Obviously there must be a recasting of our entire transport net to care for this unexampled growth. The major elements of the net must be, first a system of radial highways focusing on the central area; somewhat less important, an inner belt and lateral system; and of still less importance, although desirable in some form, an outer belt. The Plan of the Director of Highways is based on this concept.

It has been claimed that Fort Drive would perform the functions of an outer belt in the system. Granting this for the sake of argument, it would still be only one element of the integrated net, and not the most important one. Yet certain advocates of the Drive apparently refuse

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

WASHINGTON 4, D. C.

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April 4, 1947.

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It has been claimed that Fort Drive would perform the functions of an outer belt in the system. Granting this for the sake of argument, it would still be only one element of the integrated net, and not the most important one. Yet certain advocates of the Drive apparently refuse

to recognize this. Their reaction to the overall plan of the Highway Department has been primarily negative. They have maintained that it is impossible to make a highway plan without further lengthy study and the collection of more data in addition to the immense amount already collected. They hold that, until this is done, individual highway projects cannot even be considered. Yet in the one particular case of Fort Drive, they do not hesitate to recommend it unreservedly, although its advocates have never even attempted to apply to it the detailed traffic checks and other studies which they demand for all other projects.

Fort Drive, as planned, would cost today about $35,000,000. This equals the total sum which we have available for major highway improvements over the next twelve years.

The Committee mentioned above, which will study the long-term major projects, will approach Fort Drive with an open mind and deal with it on its merits. The National Capital Park & Planning Commission have been invited to cooperate in this study and have accepted. We hope for valuable and positive suggestions from them. But the Commissioners have the responsibility of doing something prompt and practical about our increasingly critical traffic situation, with the very limited funds at their disposal. They cannot commit themselves to any single project save as an element of an integrated highway system, planned and scheduled with due regard to the City's growth, the flow of traffic, and the money available.

I feel sure that you will not consider these remarks in any sense as a reflection on the Fine Arts Commission. We have the warmest appreciation of your interest and labors in the city's behalf, and shall continue to count on your help and constructive criticism. This letter is motivated merely by my wish to place before you the entire picture as it presents itself to my mind.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

JOHN RUSSELL YOUNG
President
Board of Commissioners, D.C.

(EXhibit-C)

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it is impossible to make a highway plan without further lengthy study
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is motivated merely by my wish to place before you the entire picture as
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With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely Yours,

JOHN RUSSELL YOUNG
President
Board of Commissioners, D.C.

(Exhibit-C)

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 170

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 15 (legislative day, APRIL 21), 1947

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

JOINT RESOLUTION

Authorizing the erection in the District of Columbia of a memorial to Andrew W. Mellon.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized and directed to grant authority to the Andrew W. Mellon Memorial Committee to erect a memorial fountain on public grounds at the intersection of Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues, in the District of Columbia, such grounds being now owned by the United States: *Provided,* That the design of the memorial shall be approved by the National Commission of Fine Arts, and the United States shall be put to no expense in or by the erection of this memorial: *Provided*

(EXhibit-D

further, That unless funds, which in the estimation of the Secretary of the Interior are sufficient to insure the completion of the memorial, are certified available, and the erection of this memorial begun within five years from and after the date of passage of this joint resolution, the authorization hereby granted is revoked.

Passed the House of Representatives May 14, 1947.

Attest: JOHN ANDREWS,

Clerk.

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 170

JOINT RESOLUTION

Authorizing the erection in the District of Columbia of a memorial to Andrew W. Mellon.

MAY 15 (legislative day, APRIL 21), 1947
Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. J. RES. 100

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 15 (legislative day, MARCH 24), 1947

Mr. MARTIN introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

---

JOINT RESOLUTION

Authorizing the erection in the District of Columbia of a memorial to Andrew W. Mellon.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized and directed to grant authority to the Andrew W. Mellon Memorial Committee to erect a memorial fountain on public grounds at the intersection of Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues, in the District of Columbia, such grounds being now owned by the United States: *Provided,* That the design of the memorial shall be approved by the National Commission of Fine Arts, and the United States shall be put to no

(Exhibit-D-1)

expense in or by the erection of this memorial: *Provided further,* That unless funds, which in the estimation of the Secretary of the Interior are sufficient to insure the completion of the memorial, are certified available, and the erection of this memorial begun within five years from and after the date of passage of this joint resolution, the authorization hereby granted is revoked.

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. J. RES. 100

JOINT RESOLUTION

Authorizing the erection in the District of Columbia of a memorial to Andrew W. Mellon.

By Mr. MARTIN

APRIL 15 (legislative day, MARCH 24), 1947
Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. J. RES. 110

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 5 (legislative day, APRIL 21), 1947

MR. VANDENBERG introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Public Lands

JOINT RESOLUTION

To provide for the relocation of the McMillan Fountain.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the McMillan Fountain, heretofore located in McMillan Park at First and Douglas Streets Northwest, shall be relocated on grounds owned by the United States, in Potomac Park, District of Columbia, at a location to be chosen by the Secretary of the Interior, with the approval of the National Commission of Fine Arts.

SEC. 2. That there is authorized to be appropriated the sum of $25,000 to carry out the provisions of this Act, exclusive of $9,000 held by the Corps of Engineers, War Department, for the purpose of relocating this fountain, which amount shall be applied to this project.

(EXhibit-E)

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. J. RES. 110

JOINT RESOLUTION

To provide for the relocation of the McMillan Fountain.

By Mr. VANDENBERG

MAY 5 (legislative day, APRIL 21), 1947

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Public Lands

April 25, 1947.

Dear Senator Vandenberg:

This communication concerns the matter related to the relocation and the reconstruction of a fountain erected in 1913 in memory of Senator James McMillan of Michigan. For your information I enclose the draft of a Senate Joint Ressolution required before this fountain may be rebuilt on a new site.

The fountain was given by friends of Senator James McMillan to the National Capital and from 1913 to 1943 stood in McMillan Park near the Reservoir and the Filtration Plant nearby. When it became necessary to enlarge the Reservoir during World War II the fountain was removed and at the suggestion of the Commission of Fine Arts was placed in storage until a suitable new site could be found.

Senator McMillan, as you know, was one of the champions of the Plan of Washington, and it is largely due to the work of the Senate Park Commission of 1901, often known as the McMillan Commission, which agency he sponsored, that the City of Washington has become one of the most beauiful capital cities in the world. I need not cite other notable services rendered by Senator McMillan as a member of the United States Senate.

The fountain was designed by outstanding American artists, Charles A. Platt, architect, and Herbert Adams, sculptor, both former members of this Commission. It is the judgment of the Commission of Fine Arts that

(EXhibit-E-1)

April 25, 1947.

Dear Senator Vandenberg:

This communication concerns the matter related to the relocation and the reconstruction of a fountain erected in 1913 in memory of Senator James McMillan of Michigan. For your information I enclose the draft of a Senate Joint Resolution required before this fountain may be rebuilt on a new site.

The fountain was given by friends of Senator James McMillan to the National Capital and from 1913 to 1943 stood in McMillan Park near the Reservoir and the Filtration Plant nearby. When it became necessary to enlarge the reservoir during World War II the fountain was removed and at the suggestion of the Commission of Fine Arts was placed in storage until a suitable new site could be found.

Senator McMillan, as you know, was one of the champions of the Plan of Washington, and it is largely due to the work of the Senate Park Commission of 1901, often known as the McMillan Commission, which agency he sponsored, that the City of Washington has become one of the most beautiful capital cities in the world. I need not cite other notable services rendered by Senator McMillan as a member of the United States Senate.

The fountain was designed by outstanding American artists, Charles A. Platt, architect, and Herbert Adams, sculptor, both former members of this Commission. It is the judgment of the Commission of Fine Arts that

(Enclosure-1)

the fountain should be re-erected without further delay.

The Commission have taken up with representatives of the Office of National Capital Parks, Department of the Interior, the question of the site for the fountain and we have agreed upon an eminently suitable location in Potomac Park in the center of an area which is planned as a Rose Garden to take the place of the old Rose Garden which has been destroyed in connection with the approaches for the new twin bridges over the Potomac river at Fourteenth Street. The Commission believe that this is an excellent location for the fountain and we hope this will meet with your approval.

I enclose herewith a brief description of the fountain and a photograph of it.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Honorable Arthur H. Vandenberg,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

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For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Honorable Arthur H. Vandenberg,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES SENATE
Committee on Foreign Relations
May 5, 1947.

H. R. 3072

Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman,
Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Chairman:

This will acknowledge your letter of April 25th regarding the restoration of the McMillan Foundation.

This is a most worthy project and I shall be happy to cooperate in any way I can. I will introduce the necessary legislation at once. I apprehend that our chief trouble will be to get the appropriation from this economy-minded Congress.

With warm personal regards and best wishes,

Cordially and Faithfully,

Arthur H. Vandenberg.

(EXhibit-E*2)

UNITED STATES SENATE
Committee on Foreign Relations
May 5, 1942.

Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman,
Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Chairman:

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With warm personal regards and best wishes,

Cordially and faithfully,

Arthur H. Vandenberg.

(EXHIBIT-PAL)

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3072

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 16, 1947

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Public Works

A BILL

To authorize the preparation of preliminary plans and estimates of cost of for the erection of an addition or extension to the House Office Buildings and the remodeling of the fifth floor of the Old House Office Building.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Architect of the Capitol, subject to the direction and supervision of the House Office Building Commission, is authorized and directed to prepare preliminary plans and estimates of cost for (1) the erection of an addition or extension to the House Office Buildings for the use of the United States House of Representatives, including accommodations for parking of automobiles; (2) the remodeling

(EXhibit-F)

of the fifth floor of the Old House Office Building to provide additional office accommodations for Members of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 2. The Architect of the Capitol is authorized to make such expenditures as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, and there is hereby authorized to be appropriated for such purpose the sum of $25,000.

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3072

A BILL

To authorize the preparation of preliminary plans and estimates of cost of for the erection of an addition or extension to the House Office Buildings and the remodeling of the fifth floor of the Old House Office Building.

By Mr. AUCHINCLOSS

APRIL 16, 1947
Referred to the Committee on Public Works

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 723

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 10, 1947

Referred to the Committee on Public Works

AN ACT

To authorize the preparation of preliminary plans and estimates of cost for an additional office building for the use of the United States Senate.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Architect of the Capitol, subject to the direction and supervision of the Senate Office Building Commission created by the Sundry Civil Appropriation Act of April 28, 1904 (33 Stat. 481), the membership of which is hereby increased from three to five members, to be appointed by the President of the Senate, is authorized and directed to prepare preliminary plans and estimates of cost for an additional office building for the use of the United States Senate.

(EXhibit-F-1)

SEC. 2. The Architect of the Capitol is authorized to make such expenditures as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, and there is hereby authorized to be appropriated for such purpose the sum of $25,000.

Passed the Senate April 7 (legislative day, March 24), 1947.

Attest: CARL A. LOEFFLER,

Secretary.

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 723

AN ACT

To authorize the preparation of preliminary plans and estimates of cost for an additional office building for the use of the United States Senate.

APRIL 10, 1947
Referred to the Committee on Public Works

May 20, 1947.

Dear Mr. Young:

The designs and photographs of a model by Ulysses A. Ricci, Sculptor, for the base of the Memorial Flagpole to be erected on the grounds of the American Pharmaceutical Association Building, have received the particular attention of the Honorable Lee Lawrie, sculptor member of the Commission of Fine Arts. Upon the recommendation of Mr. Lawrie, the Commission approve the model.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

MR. T. J. Young,
Eggers and Higgins, Architects,
542 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

(Exhibit-G).

May 20, 1942.

Dear Mr. Young:

The designs and photographs of a model by Ulysses A. Ricci, sculptor, for the base of the Memorial Flagpole to be erected on the grounds of the American Pharmaceutical Association Building, have received the particular attention of the Honorable Lee Lawrie, sculptor member of the Commission of Fine Arts. Upon the recommendation of Mr. Lawrie, the Commission approve the model.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Mr. T. J. Young,
Eggers and Higgins, Architects,
342 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

(Exhibit-G).

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
EXECUTIVE OFFICES
Washington 4, D.C.
April 9th, 1947.

M. Thornett
Secretary

Board of Commissioners
John Russell Young
President
Guy Mason
Gordon R. Young
Brig. Gen. U.S.

The Honorable Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Clarke:

The following confirms a verbal request made by the District Commissioners to Messrs. F. V. Murphy and H. P. Caemmerer, who met with us recently for an informal discussion on high structures in the District.

Modern technological developments involve the increasing use of steel towers or masts for such purposes as ordinary radio broadcasting, radio communication with moving vehicles (e.g., police and other public vehicles, taxicabs, or private automobiles in which telephones are installed), television, ultra high-frequeency transmission, etc. The power of the District Commissioners to control the erection of such a structure is limited to the one aspect of height; if it must exceed the limit authorized by the zoning, this requires our approval. (In the case of residential zones there must also be approval of the location, but this is controlled by the Board of Zoning Adjustment). This height control, while limited, is however decisive, since refusal to permit a structure of the height desired would ordinarily prevent its being built.

In passing on such cases we have two aspects to consider, the utilitarian and the esthetic. On the one hand we cannot take an uncompromising stand against technological improvements which give services desired by our citizens. On the other hand, we do not wish to see the city cluttered up with high structures which seriously injure its appearance.

Thus far the question has not become acute. The ordinary radio installations have not in general been a subject of complaint or criticism. (One of them, recently authorized, has aroused the objection of certain nearby residents; but it is located on industrial land near a railroad, is near the northern corner of the District, has received the approval of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and would seem to be as unobjectionable as any such structure can be.) In the case of television towers the National Capital Park and Planning Commission studied the problem at our request, and recommended a policy that such towers should be located away from the monumental portions of the city and should be no higher than the Federal Communications Commission deemed necessary. This policy the Commissioners have adopted and applied in the few cases which have come up.

(EXhibit-H)

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
EXECUTIVE OFFICES
Washington 4, D.C.
April 9th, 1947.

. Thornett
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Board of Commissioners
John Russell Young
President
Guy Mason
Gordon R. Young
Brig. Gen. U.S.

The Honorable Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

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(Exhibit-H)

It seems unlikely that there will be any additional television applications in the near future.

There is however an increasing demand for towers or masts for direct communication to vehicles. We have had several such cases recently. So far, in our opinion, no harm has been done. However, it is easy to see that if this development, or any similar development along other lines, should produce a demand for great numbers of tall masts or towers in certain parts of the city, the results might be highly undesirable.

Accordingly, the Commissioners would like to formulate some general policy, within the framework of which they could act consistently on individual cases. Such a policy might consist of two parts:

1. The establishment of areas within the city, selected with special reference to the monumental Federal structures and principal vistas, within which such structures should be discouraged or scrutinized with special care.

2. The establishment of machinery by which the structures, if found unobjectionable from the viewpoint of general location, could be checked to make sure that they harmonized architecturally with nearby buildings as closely as possible.

We set forth these points to Mr. Murphy and Mr. Caemmerer, asking whether the Fine Arts Commission would give the matter some thought and favor us with an informal statement of its views. They expressed their willingness to do so. We shall warmly appreciate any advice or suggestions from the Commission.

It is believed that for the present the matter should remain in the status of informal discussions among ourselves, and should not be given premature publicity.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

John Russell Young,
President,
Board of Commissioners of the
District of Columbia.

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It is believed that for the present the matter should remain in the status of informal discussions among ourselves, and should not be given any publicity.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

John Russell Young,
President,
Board of Commissioners of the
District of Columbia.

COPY

May 26, 1947.

Dear Commissioner Young:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 9, 1947, gave careful consideration to your letter of April 9, 1947, requesting the advice of the Commission with reference to Radio Telephone Communication in the District of Columbia. The subject was discussed with engineers of the Federal Communications Commission.

It was pointed out that it would be difficult to estimate the number of radio poles or masts which ultimately would be needed. It is recommended, therefore, that permits should be issued on the basis of use rather than on a strictly area basis, with preference placed upon public use as opposed to private use and with the provise that on buildings south of H Street, Northwest, and north of the Mall, the restrictions be as rigid as practicable. It is obvious that as few poles as possible should be placed in this area, preferably to be restricted to those for use related to the public safety. The Commission of Fine Arts have always advocated that nothing should be erected above the building height limits which would interrupt or interfere esthetically with the views of the Capitol Dome or of the Washington Monument, the most important monuments in the City of Washington, indeed in the United States.

The Commission were informed by the representatives of the Federal Communications Commission that that Commission would not grant permits in large numbers to commercial establishments which might wish to make use of radio telephone communication.

The Commission discussed, incidentally, the question of television towers. It was pointed out that there are only four television stations at present in the District of Columbia, and until color television is developed there is no cause for concern relative to a possible multiplicity of these stations.

The Commission of Fine Arts will be pleased to cooperate with the Commissioners of the District of Columbia in this matter; in particular since the problem has a bearing on the duties of this Commission in connection with the administration of the Shipstead-Luce Act.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman

Honorable John Russell Young, President
Board of Commissioners of
the District of Columbia
Washington, D. C.

(Exhibit-H 1)

May 20, 1947.

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For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman.

rable John Russell Young, President
d of Commissioners of
District of Columbia
ington, D. C.

(Exhibit-H I)

May 12, 1947.

Dear Mr. Stanton:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 9, 1947, were pleased to consider the designs submitted by you, in company with Mr. Thorn and Mr. Persina, for the completion of the Government Building in which the Department of State is located, at Twenty-first Street and Virginia Avenue. The Commission noted that the building provides for an extension westward to Twenty-third Street. A few suggestions were made by the architect members of the Commission in matters of detail.

The Commission approved the designs submitted, subject to the submission of a restudy of the plot plans and details. Before final approval, the Commission would be pleased to see a model of the entire building. It is understood that the entire building will not be higher than the existing first unit.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. J. E. Stanton,
Deputy Commissioner of
Design and Construction,
Public Buildings Administration,
Federal Works Agency,
Washington, D. C.

(EXhibit-I)

May 12, 1927.

Dear Mr. Stanton:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 9, 1927, were pleased to consider the designs submitted by you, in company with Mr. Thorn and Mr. Perkins, for the completion of the Government Building in which the Department of State is located, at Twenty-first Street and Virginia Avenue. The Commission noted that the building provides for an extension westward to Twenty-third Street. A few suggestions were made by the architect members of the Commission in matters of detail.

The Commission approved the designs submitted, subject to the submission of a restudy of the plot plans and details. Before final approval, the Commission would be pleased to see a model of the entire building. It is understood that the entire building will not be higher than the existing first unit.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. J. E. Stanton,
Deputy Commissioner of
Design and Construction,
Public Buildings Administration,
Federal Works Agency,
Washington, D. C.

(Exhibit-I)

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington,D.C.

March 14, 1947.

Dear Dr. Wetmore:

The Commission of Fine Arts have requested me to bring to your attention a suggestion by Victor Salvatore, Sculptor, 45 Astor Place, New York City, that the Government procure "life masks of our war heroes, such masks to be kept as public records."

Mr. Salvatore was one of the competitors in the recent competition for the "General Marshall Gold Medal" conducted by the Bureau of the Mint, but, as stated by Mr. Salvatore in his letter of December 19th, which I enclose, "I discovered that not only I, but every other artist in the competition, was greatly handicapped by not having the proper measurements to work with.

The Commission of Fine Arts considered the matter at their meeting on January 31st, 1947, and concluded that "It would be an excellent idea to have life masks made of distinguished American." A report was sent to Mr. Salvatore accordingly, endorsing his idea, and suggesting that he bring this matter to the attention of the National Sculpture Society; thereupon it was to be taken up with you.

By letter of February 12, 1947, Mr. Salvatore reported that he brought the matter to the attention of the National Sculpture Society at a recent meeting; that "there was a general discussion and everybody who spoke was enthusiastially in favor of it. A vote was taken and the Plan was unanimously approved."

Thus, this matter is placed before you for consideration, and in the hope that favorable action may be taken. The Commission of Fine Arts feel that the life masks should be in the custody of the Smithsonian Institution.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Secretary,
The Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D. C.

(EXhibit-J)

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington, D.C.

March 14, 1947.

Dear Dr. Netsore:

The Commission of Fine Arts have requested me to bring to your attention a suggestion by Victor Salvatore, Sculptor, 45 Astor Place, New York City, that the Government procure "life masks of our war heroes, such masks to be kept as public records."

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Sincerely yours,

Mr. M. P. Gammerer,
Secretary.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Secretary,
The Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D. C.

(Exhibit-G)

May 12, 1947.

Dear Mr. Demaray:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 9, 1947, approved the designs which you submitted in behalf of the Federal Housing Administration, for the proposed Belle-View Apartments (located adjacent to the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway and about four miles south of Alexandria, Virginia) by Mills & Petticord, Architects, of Washington.

The Commission believe that wood window frames and sash would give a much better appearance and serve to retain the Colonial character of the architectural treatment than the steel sash which were indicated on the drawings. We understand that the Architects are in accord with this suggestion and that it will be followed.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. A.E. Demaray, Associate Director,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

(EXhibit-K)

May 12, 1947.

Dear Mr. Demaray:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 9, 1947, approved the designs which you submitted for the proposed Belle-View Apartments (located adjacent to the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway and about four miles south of Alexandria, Virginia) by Mills & Petticord, Architects, of Washington.

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For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. A.E. Demaray, Associate Director,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

(Exhibit-K)

May 12, 1947.

Dear Mr. Demaray:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 9th, 1947, approved the suggestion of the Office of National Capital Parks to locate a Rose Garden, to take the place of the one which is now situated in the line of the approaches to the two proposed new bridges to cross the Potomac at 14th Street, in Potomac Park immediately south of the two driveways south of the reflecting basin of the Mall. The Commission will be glad to review studies for the design of this garden whenever you are ready.

The Commission approved the location suggested for the McMillan Fountain.

Senator Vandenberg has introduced S. J. Res. 110, providing for the relocation of the McMillan Fountain (copy enclosed), and it is hoped that this bill will be adopted by the Congress.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. A. E. Demaray,
Associate Director,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

(EXhibit-L)

May 12, 1947.

Dear Mr. Demaray:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 9th, 1947, approved the suggestion of the Office of National Capital Parks to locate a Rose Garden, to take the place of the one which is now situated in the line of the approaches to the two proposed new bridges to cross the Potomac at 14th Street, in Potomac Park immediately south of the two driveways south of the reflecting basin of the Mall. The Commission will be glad to review studies for the design of this garden whenever you are ready.

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For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. A. E. Demaray,
Associate Director,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

(EXHIBIT-I)

May 12, 1947.

Dear General Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 9, 1947, were pleased to inspect with you the model for two groups of beacon lights proposed to be placed at the top of the Washington Monument, submitted in behalf of the Washington National Monument Society and the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

The Commission object to the location suggested for these lights at the sides of the Monument windows, since they interfere seriously with the views over the City of Washington.

The Commission suggest that further study be given to the location of these proposed beacon lights; they do not favor flashing lights, and concur in the use of them only if needed for safety purposes. The Commission suggest that a simple mechanical device be designed to provide for keeping the beacon light fixture inside and above the windows in the daytime and arranged so that they may be moved out into the appropriate positions at night. Such an arrangement would make it relatively simple to service the lights and the views from the windows by day would not be interfered with.

The Commission trust that such a schame can be developed, and following further studies they will be pleased to take up this matter again with you and others interested in the matter.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Major General U. S. Grant III (Ret'd.)
Chairman,
National Capital Park and Planning Commission,
Washington, D. C.

(EXhibit-M)

May 12, 1947.

Dear General Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 9, 1947, were pleased to inspect with you the model for two groups of beacon lights proposed to be placed at the top of the Washington Monument, submitted in behalf of the Washington National Monument Society and the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

The Commission objects to the location suggested for these lights at the sides of the Monument windows, since they interfere seriously with the views over the City of Washington.

The Commission suggest that further study be given to the location of these proposed beacon lights; they do not favor flashing lights, and concur in the use of them only if needed for safety purposes. The Commission suggest that a simple mechanical device be designed to provide for keeping the beacon light fixture inside and above the windows in the daytime and arranged so that they may be moved out into the appropriate positions at night. Such an arrangement would make it relatively simple to service the lights and the views from the windows by day would not be interfered with.

The Commission trust that such a scheme can be developed, and following further studies they will be pleased to take up this matter again with you and others interested in the matter.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Major General U. S. Grant III (Ret'd.)
Chairman,
National Capital Park and Planning Commission,
Washington, D. C.

(Exhibit-A)

May 10, 1947.

Dear Colonel Ciccolella:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 9, 1947, were pleased to consider with you and Mr. Cass Gilbert,Jr., Architect, a proposed project for a First Division Memorial of World War II, to be placed and incorporated into the First Division Memorial of World War I, south of the"State, War and Navy" building. The Commission were in accord with suggestions made for the proposed Memorial, and will be pleased to consider the matter further after detailed study by the architect.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Lieut. Col. R. G. Ciccolella,
Military Department,
Georgetown University,
Washington, D.C.

(EXhibit-N)

May 10, 1947.

Dear Colonel Ciccolella:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 9, 1947, were pleased to consider with you and Mr. Case Gilbert, Jr., Architect, a proposed project for a First Division Memorial of World War II, to be placed and incorporated into the First Division Memorial of World War I, south of the "State, War and Navy" building. The Commission were in accord with suggestions made for the proposed Memorial, and will be pleased to consider the matter further after detailed study by the architect.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Lieut. Col. R. G. Ciccolella,
Military Department,
Georgetown University,
Washington, D.C.

(Exhibit-M)

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 188

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 15 (legislative day, APRIL 21), 1947

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

---

JOINT RESOLUTION

Authorizing the erection on public grounds in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, of a memorial to the dead of the First Infantry Division, United States Forces, World War II.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to grant the Memorial Association of the First Infantry Division, United States Army, permission to erect on public grounds of the United States in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, adjacent to the monument to the dead of the First Infantry Division, American Expeditionary Forces in World War I, a monument to the dead of the First

(Exhibit W-1)

Infantry Division, United States Forces in World War II; the site chosen and the design of the monument and pedestal shall be approved by the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library with the advice and recommendations of the National Commission of Fine Arts, and the United States shall be put to no expense in or by the erection of this memorial.

Passed the House of Representatives May 14, 1947.

Attest: JOHN ANDREWS,

Clerk.

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 188

JOINT RESOLUTION

Authorizing the erection on public grounds in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, of a memorial to the dead of the First Infantry Division, United States Forces, World War II.

MAY 15 (legislative day, APRIL 21), 1947
Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

May 12, 1947.

Dear Captain Whitehurst:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 9th, 1947, were pleased to consider with you the designs for District of Columbia project, which you submitted as follows:

1. Military Road Underpass, at Sixteenth Street, Architectural design approved.

2. Bridge over Rock Creek, Military Road, Architectural design approved.

3. Dupont Circle Underpass, Detailed architectural plans approved. It is understood that the materials used will be similar to those on the Thomas Circle and Scott Circle underpasses. Designs approved with the understanding that a slight modification would be made in the design of the railing.

4. Twin Bridges at Fourteenth Street, to replace the old Highway Bridge; detailed architectural plans. Designs approved, with the understanding that further study would be given to the lighting standards, which were not approved.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Capt. H. C. Whitehurst,
Director of Highways,
District Building
Washington, D.C.

(EXhibit-O)

May 12, 1947.

Dear Captain Whitehurst:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 9th, 1947, were pleased to consider with you the designs for District of Columbia project, which you submitted as follows:

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For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Capt. H. C. Whitehurst,
Director of Highways,
District Building
Washington, D.C.

(EXhibit-C)

JOINT RESOLUTION H.J.RES.188

Copy for The Commission of Fine Arts

The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, The Commission of Fine Arts, and Miss Katharine N. Rhoades as provided in paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles L. Freer, have examined the following objects:

2 Bronze monster-masks, Chinese, Early Chou dynasty.

1 Bronze vessel of the type Chio, Chinese, Shang dynasty.

1 Bronze vessel, Chinese, Han dynasty.

1 Bronze bell, Chinese, Chou dynasty.

1 Bronze vessel of the type YU, Chinese, Chou dynasty.

1 Pair gilt bronze lions, Chinese, A.D. 6th century.

1 Silver buckle, Chinese, early T'ang dynasty.

1 Pottery vase (Peachbloom), Chinese, Ch'ing dynasty, K'ang Hsi period.

1 Ivory horn, Egyptian, 12th century.

1 Ms. page, Guschtasp killing the Dragon, Persian, 14th century,

which have been recommended for purchase for the Freer Gallery of Art by Mr. A. G. Wenley, Director, and they hereby approve the purchase.

For the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution

Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman
For the Commission of Fine Arts

May 9, 1947.

May 1, 1947.

Katharine N. Rhoades

(Exhibit-P)

(Exhibit-F)

Catherine N. Rhoades

1, 1947.

For the Commission of Fine Arts

Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman

9, 1947.

For the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution

The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, The Commission of Fine Arts, and Miss Katherine N. Rhoades as provided in paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles L. Freer, have examined the following objects:

2 Bronze monster-masks, Chinese, Early Chou dynasty.

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1 Bronze vessel, Chinese, Han dynasty.

1 Bronze bell, Chinese, Chou dynasty.

1 Bronze vessel of the type Yu, Chinese, Chou dynasty.

1 Pair gilt bronze lions, Chinese, A.D. 6th century.

1 Silver buckle, Chinese, early T'ang dynasty.

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1 Ivory horn, Egyptian, 12th century.

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